

GARRETT COUNTY GOVERNMENT – July 2012  
By the Board of County Commissioners “Board”

Deep Creek Lake 2014

1. Update on “DCL 2014” – International Canoe Federation Slalom World Championships.
2. Discussion of DCL rule band water level and water releases.
3. Planning for 2012 Nationals Race to be held at ASCI.
4. Discussion on the Definitive Agreement between ASCI and Wisp/Recreational Industries.
5. Discussion on continuing camps and other events that have in past years not experienced a profit.
6. The Board asked that a site plan be made available to gain a better understanding of future expansions and improvements.
7. Commissioner Crawford stressed the fact that ASCI and the Board sitting as the Board of Directors develop 5 Year Long-Term Goals to include using the 501(3)(c) to secure grant and fund raising monies. Strategic points and key elements must be identified. Commissioner Crawford also noted that the Board needs to work with the ASCI Advisory Board to make ASCI a destination point and not an add-on venue to other County attractions.

Department of Economic Development

1. Review of the Mountain MD Angel Investors Group
2. Concern by the trout fishing community with the loss of the North Branch fishery and the matter of water releases to maintain water temperature, flow, etc.
3. Recommendation of re-classification of the position of Natural Resources Development Officer. The Board agreed with the recommendation based on a justification presented and supported by Mr. Pagenhardt.
4. Appointment of Cynthia Sharon as Project Manager with the Department of Economic Development.

Board of Education

1. The Kitzmiller Charter School Initiative, Inc. presented an overview of their application for the formation of a Charter School. The Committee requested that the Board grant their approval to utilize the former Kitzmiller Elementary School for their charter school for School Year 2013 – 2014 and for School Year 2012 – 2013 for programs on home school and community functions under the jurisdiction of the Kitzmiller Learning Co-Op.
2. The Board reviewed potential candidates for the vacant position for Election District 3 as the Elected Member on the GC BOE. The Board will review submissions received and make an official appointment during the Public Meeting on August 7, 2012.
3. Discussion on consolidating informational technology responsibilities with the Co. and BOE. The Board was open to this plan and will work with Co. IT staff and BOE management on this direction. It also was noted that the former Dennett Road Elementary School is a potential site for an informational technology central department.

Department of Financial Services

1. Update on the GC Detention Center Bond Bill. In 2007, the Co. completed the certification of the matching funds for this project for the design of the GC Detention Center. In August 2008 the Board decided to postpone and then cancel the project. Upon cancelling the contract, the Co. paid the engineering contractor \$679,195.00 in design services for the Detention Center. Based on the circumstances surrounding this project, the County was eligible for reimbursement under the terms and conditions of the project and will be reimbursed for 50% of this cost (\$339,597.50).
2. Michael Bell presented the Board with a Restoring Fairness to GC Real Property Taxes by Taxing Marcellus and Utica Mineral Rights proposal.

Health Department

1. The Board met staff representing the Partners After School Program under the authority of the GC Health Department who requested approval to utilize unused funding during the school year for summer program time. The Health Dept. will return \$191,000 +/- in unspent funds from FY 12 to the Co. The Board approved the designation of funds for this purpose.
2. Request for appropriation of \$45,000 for FY 13 to allow for continuation of After School Programs at all three locations for the entire 2012-2013 school year. Funding has been identified that will effectively fund the Grantsville Elementary School Program and the Southern Middle School/Broadford Elementary sites. The \$45,000 funding from the Board would allow the programming to continue at Accident Elementary School. The funds will be taken from the FY 12 unspent revenue from the GC Health Department.

Department of Planning & Land Development

1. Appointment to the DC Watershed Board of Zoning Appeals. The Board appointed Bruce Swift as a member of the Board to fill the unexpired term of Charles McCrobie. Mr. Swift is currently an alternate.
2. Discussion on the voting status of the commissioner who serves as an ex-officio member of the Planning Commission.
3. FY 14 Waterway Improvement Fund application and project agreement grant request letter from the State of MD DNR. The Board will submit for consideration a request for lake access at DCL with a site to be determined.
4. The Board discussed MD Codes Administration legislation. A brief summary of the legislative action that the 2012 General Assembly took regarding sprinkler system requirements for one and two family residences. Recently, all local jurisdictions

received an announcement from the MD Codes Administration that effectively reversed the understanding of local governments. Any local amendments enacted to opt out of the 2012 International Residential Code sprinkler requirements would be in effect locally until the next code cycle in 2015. Local jurisdictions will not be permitted to weaken the sprinkler system requirements in the International Residential Code for the 2015 cycle. The Board agreed to schedule a Public Hearing on the new 2012 International Building Code and International Residential Code on August 21, 2012 at 4:15 p.m. and voted to include a provision in local amendments that would opt out of the sprinkler system requirements contained in the 2012 International Residential Code.

5. Presentation of requests for FY 13 Program Open Space funds. The Board will look at this in more detail on a later date.

#### Purchasing Department

1. Update on the County Energy Conservation Plan.
2. Contract Extension – General Carpentry Services. The Board approved a contract extension to Thomas & Thomas Construction LLC for a basis labor rate of \$28.00 per hour and a 12% mark up for materials.
3. Refuse Containers. The Board approved a bid award to Custom Container Solutions for a total cost of \$18,550.00. { (1) 40 yard closed recycling container @\$4,300.00; (1) 40 yard open top container @\$4,200.00; and (3) 20 yard open top containers at \$3,350.00}.
4. Contract Extension - Custodial Cleaning Services. The Board approved a contract extension to Appalachian Crossroads for \$46.50 per time for Oakland Roads Dept. Garage; \$41.00 per time for Accident Roads Dept. Garage; and \$42.50 per time for Grantsville Roads Dept. Garage.

#### Roads Department

1. The Board met with MD Coal Association and others to discuss the use of coal haul trucks and the damage to Co. roads. Coal tonnage tax received by the Co. was reviewed and the cost of infrastructure and repair cost to Westernport Rd was presented. It was decided by all parties to continue open dialog quarterly on matters discussed on this date.
2. The Board met with Cecil Holtschneider to further discuss plans for his subdivision. The Board will take under advisement with consultation from the County Attorney a proposal to relocate Haenftling Road to the original location on Pysell Road.
3. Discussion on the **Agreement** between the Board and the AFSCME Council 67 Local 1834. Mr. Pagenhardt, at the direction and on behalf of the Board, sent an official letter to AFSCME Business Representative James Bestpitch on April 24, 2012 that read as follows:

*The Board of County Commissioners of Garrett County, Maryland is in the process of designing and implementing the budget for the next fiscal year. As a part of that undertaking, the County is required to look at all expenses particularly in light of its ever decreasing income. As a part of that process it has GC undertaken a review of employee expenses and has determined that it is necessary to again review the existing agreement with American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Council 67, Local 1834 and its Roads Department Employees.*

*I am sure you and the members of Local 1834 are very much aware of the difficult financial situation GC Government has experienced over the past several years. Unfortunately it appears that the difficult financial situation will continue to be an issue of concern for years to come. State revenues to the County have all but been eliminated, real property assessments have declined, and overall general fund revenue is significantly less than it was just several years ago. These factors have contributed to many financial issues including the potential closure of several elementary schools.*

*County Government is making every effort to maintain current staffing levels, avoid a reduction in personnel, to maintaining employee health care and retirement benefits and avoid the necessity of furloughs. To assist with the preservation of each of these financial and human resource areas and to maintain a quality service to the public, the Board is asking that AFSCME Council 67, Local 1834 agree to decline the hourly wage rate adjustment that would be effective July 1, 2012. We realize that this is a significant request. Please appreciate that it is the County's intent to treat all of its employees equally and fairly. We are not asking anything from the Roads Department Employees that we are not prepared to require of all of our employees.*

*We thank you for your consideration of this request. We would appreciate a prompt response so that we can move forward with our economic plans for the year ahead.*

4. On June 24, 2012, AFSCME responded that the membership had voted not to decline the hourly wage increase that would be effective July 1, 2012. This increase is an unbudgeted expenditure for FY13. Chairman Raley and Commissioner Gatto agreed to proceed with applying the hourly rate increase of 4% consistent with the provisions of the *Agreement* and with an effective date of July 1, 2012. Commissioner Crawford was not in agreement. Mr. Pagenhardt asked that the Board agree to review year to date FY13 revenue and expenditures monthly to determine budget versus actual on an continuing schedule. The Board unanimously agreed to this recommendation.

#### Sheriff's Department

Sheriff Robert Corley presented the Board with an exposition on the Inmate Labor Work Program. The program was implanted in the last quarter of FY 12 with inmates assigned to mowing, grounds maintenance, and other work on public facilities and properties.

#### Department of Planning & Land Development

Update on Program Open Space project requests and available funding for FY2013.

### Department of Public Utilities

Discussion on Ad Valorem tax of \$0.06 for DC Wastewater Sanitary District that was imposed for FY13. Mr. Pagenhardt explained that no notice was sent to property owners who are included in the District and the tax rate was included in FY 2013 Budget as part of the supplemental levy for special taxing areas of the District. The Board expressed their displeasure.

### Department of Solid Waste & Recycling

The Board conducted a **Public Hearing** to review and receive comment on a proposed amendment to the current 10 Year Solid Waste Management Plan for GC for an expansion of waste disposal capacity. There was no public commentary on this matter. The Board closed the **Public Hearing**, approved the Amendments as presented.

### Western Consortium

1. Served 300 clients during the past fiscal year in job search, resume development, job preparatory assistance, occupational job training, and other services.
2. 2 Rapid Response targets for Fehhheimer and the Board of Education with 87 people who were laid off served.
3. Update on Summer Youth Program.
4. Information on collaboration with other County and State agencies who serve many of the same clients.

### Miscellaneous

1. The Board of County Commissioners presented an overview of board, committee, and commission meetings they have attended individually and as a Board. Chairman Raley also noted the GC Historical Society event conducted on June 30, 2012 that showcased the photography of Leo Beachy
2. The Board executed a Proclamation recognizing the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Garrett County Lighthouse.
3. The Board met with GC Arts Council to discuss the distribution of funds approved in FY 2013 Budget.
4. The Board met with Phil Rodeheaver, Chairman of the GC Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and Nicole Christian, President, GC Chamber of Commerce. The purpose of the session was to present initiatives and goals for the forthcoming year.
5. Chairman Raley presented potential appointments for Tri-County Council of Western MD Revolving Loan Committee. The Board agreed to appoint Tracy Bemiller and Nancy Jo Fratz to the Committee.
6. The Board discussed issues related to the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual GC Appreciation Day/GC Airport 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration at the Airport scheduled for August 11, 2012.
7. Chairman Raley asked for an agreement from the Board to provide prints of areas of GC for the First Energy Regional Office Deep Creek Lake conference room. Purchase of select prints will come from the GC Arts Council Gallery.
8. The Board appointed Henrietta Lease to the Local Management Board. Official letter of appointment under the signature of Chairman Raley will be sent to Ms. Lease.
9. The Board approved a real property tax abatement for parcels owned by the GC memorial Hospital:
10. The Board recognized The Greater Cumberland Committee and David Moe for their efforts on securing for funding for the North-South Appalachian Highway project.
11. The Board was asked to recognize Les and Sandy Denton and Lillian Steele who recently received the Paul Zumwalt Award for MD's Highest Point - Hoyer Crest.
12. The Board met with County Government Senior Management to reviewed priority issues, stated their vision for the short and long term, and listened to commentary from staff in attendance.
13. The Board approved an allocation of \$500 to the Town of Friendsville for "Friendsville Days 2012".
14. Discussion into the feasibility of the Social Security Administration establishing a satellite or remote site in GC. Mr. Pagenhardt will contact Congressional and Senatorial representatives to see if this can be arranged
15. Chairman Raley executed a letter to the MD Institute for Emergency Services Systems informing them that Dr. Richard Perry has been appointed as Jurisdictional Medical Advisor for GC by the Board.